GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:457
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Beggary
Sonker Smt. Neelam

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of beggars in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of physically fit, disabled and drug addicted beggars, out of the total number of beggars;

(c) whether any gang of beggars is operating in metro cities forcing small children into begging through kidnapping them or amputation of their limbs and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether the Government has initiated any action to ascertain the reasons for the increasing number of beggars in the country and to check this tendency and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has formulated any policy to bring physically fit beggars into mainstream; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)
(a) & (b): As per the State-wise Census 2011 details furnished by the Office of Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India, the number of Beggars, Vagrants etc. in India as follows:
i. Total Beggars, Vagrants etc. -413670
ii. Total Disabled Beggars, Vagrants etc.- 70506
The State-wise details are enclosed as Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.
No authentic data about Drug Addicted Beggars is available in the Ministry.
(c): No such information is available in the Ministry.
(d) to (f): The States are responsible for taking necessary preventive and rehabilitative steps. As per available information, 20 States and 2 Union Territories have either enacted their own Anti-Beggary Legislation or adopted legislations enacted by other States/UTs. Presently, there is no scheme of the Central Government on Beggary. National Consultation Meeting were held with the representatives of Central/State Governments, NGOs, Institutes and Individual Experts in the field of Beggary to discuss the issues related to Beggary. In these meetings, it was inter-alia, recommended to explore the feasibility of framing a Central Scheme for rehabilitation of Beggars.